

PARAGUAY | YREN ROTELA AND MARIANA SEPÚLVEDA



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Don't tell us who we are

Yren Rotela and Mariana Sepúlveda want to live freely and do the things they love – play volleyball, dance and go to the theatre. But as trans women who have been bullied, physically attacked and prevented from speaking out, they are too busy fighting for their rights. Trans people in Paraguay can't legally change their names or obtain identity documents that match their gender identity, among other discriminatory practices.

As a result, trans students can't get school certificates in their chosen names, which makes finding a job difficult. This inequality motivated Yren and Mariana to

demand change. But protesting is not easy for trans people in Paraguay, a conservative country that treats them and the wider LGBTI community unfairly. Protests by trans groups are often banned and demonstrations that do go ahead have been attacked.

Yren and Mariana have been fighting for years to change their legal names. If they succeed, it would mean the state had started to recognise their existence as trans women. 'I came into the world to show who I am,' says Yren, 'not to be told who I am.'

[Send a message of support and solidarity](#)

Yren Rotela and Mariana Sepúlveda
c/o Amnesty International Paraguay
Hassler 5229 entre Cruz del Defensor y
Cruz del Chaco,
Asunción
Paraguay

Language Spanish or English

Suggested message I act with you in the fight for trans rights

[Can I](#)

Send a religious card or message? Yes

Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty? Yes

Include my name and address? Yes

[Send an appeal letter](#)

Urge the president of the Supreme Court to legally recognise the identities of transgender people.

Write to Presidency of the Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay
President of the Supreme Court of Justice
Palacio de Justicia del Paraguay
Mariano Roque Alonso y Testanova
9° Piso, Torre Norte
C.P. N°001001
Asunción
Paraguay

Salutation Dear Mr President
In your letter ask him to legally recognise the identities of transgender people so they can exercise their right to freedom of expression, association and protest under their self-perceived identities.

'Today, I am standing, firm as a warrior. I am a person who loves themselves and loves life deeply and who will fight until my last breath for a more human Paraguay.'

Yren Rotela



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